



Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Illinois)

122 N. Wacker Drive Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312.630.8200 Fax: 312.630.8700
email: berger@chicago.louisberger.com

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: April 28, 2003

Time: 10:10 A.M.

Place: Illinois Department of Transportation – District 4
Peoria, Illinois

Subject: **NEPA/404 MERGER PROCESS
COORDINATION MEETING**
U.S. Route 20 (FAP 301)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Design Study - Freeport to Galena

Submitted By: Daniel J. Loftus, P.E.

Attachments: Preferred Alternate

MINUTES:

The purpose of this meeting was to present the Preferred Alternate that would be identified in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS), expected to be released for public comment in June of this year.

- 1) Berger presented a brief history of the selection of the Preferred Alternate – Alternate 2, Longhollow Freeway with the South Simmons Mound variation – and the status of the Draft EIS.
- 2) Berger presented the Preferred Alternate as identified in the Draft EIS (in conjunction with the handout) and a summary of the environmental impacts. These impacts included agriculture, cultural, upland forest, habitat fragmentation, threatened and endangered species, special waste, stream crossings, floodplains, wetlands, and mitigation. [This same presentation was presented to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USCOE) (John Betker) on Friday, 25 April 2003.].
- 3) Berger reviewed the public involvement on this project, which consist five (5) individual work groups representing the varied interests of agriculture, government, economic development, environment and tourism. Each work group was comprised of numerous members that shared a common interest in the particular group they joined. The work groups in return reported to a ten (10) member Advisory Council which consisted of the chairperson and another representative from each of the work groups. It was the Advisory



Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Illinois)

122 N. Wacker Drive Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312.630.8200 Fax: 312.630.8700
email: berger@chicago.louisberger.com

Council's position to take information and advisement from each work group, and ultimately come up with a recommended alignment representing the best possible choice to accommodate the general public's interests. The Advisory Council unanimously recommended Alternate 2 – Longhollow Freeway with South Simmons Mound.

- 4) Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) stated that they would like to see the wetland mitigation in the same water basin or additional documentation on why the wetland mitigation has to be in another water basin. It was requested that IDNR review the DEIS text/commitments and follow up with any questions they may have.
- 5) U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) asked if avoidance of wetlands was considered in the development of the Preferred Alternate. Illinois Department of Transportation answered that along the Preferred Alternate there are approximately 300 wetlands with only nine wetlands being impacted. Avoidance was considered as the first course and was successful with regard to higher quality wetlands.

CONCURRENCE:

Concurrence was received from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Illinois Department of Agriculture, USEPA, INDR, and USCOE (4/25/03) that the Preferred Alternate – Longhollow Freeway with South Simmons Mound Alternate is indeed the alternate that should be carried forth in the Draft EIS.

The meeting ended at 10:45 A.M.



Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Illinois)

122 N. Wacker Drive Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312.630.8200 Fax: 312.630.8700
email: berger@chicago.louisberger.com

MINUTES OF MEETING

Date: April 19, 2002
Time: 2:00 P.M.
Place: Federal Highway Administration Building
Springfield, Illinois
Subject: NEPA/404 MERGER PROCESS
COORDINATION MEETING
U.S. Route 20 (FAP 301)
Section 43-1, -2, -3, -4, -5 & 177-1
Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties
Job No. P-92-004-92
US 20 Design Study - Freeport to Galena

Submitted By: Daniel J. Loftus, P.E.

Attachments: Preliminary Alignments (dated June 6, 2001)
"DRAFT" Impacts Matrix

MINUTES:

The purpose of this meeting was to present the Selected Alternative that would be identified by the Department of Transportation as the preferred alignment in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (Draft EIS), expected to be released for public comment this year.

- 1) Berger presented the "DRAFT" Purpose and Need Statement for the Preliminary Draft EIS submitted to the department in July 2001 (not attached.) Berger stated that the comments made as a result of the previous NEPA/404 meeting (09/27/97) had been incorporated.
- 2) Berger presented a summary drawing of all alignments considered in the PDEIS. A discussion regarding some of the specific history of each alignment occurred.
- 3) Berger discussed the public involvement on this project, which consisted of the formation of the five (5) individual work groups representing the varied interests of agriculture, government, economic development, environment and tourism. Each work group was comprised of numerous members that shared a common interest in the particular group they joined. The work groups in return reported to a ten (10) member Advisory Council which consisted of the chairperson and another representative from each of the work groups. It was the Advisory Council's position to take information and advisement from each work group, and ultimately come up with a recommended alignment representing the best possible choice to accommodate the general public's interests.



Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. (Illinois)

122 N. Wacker Drive Suite 200
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: 312.630.8200 Fax: 312.630.8700
email: berger@chicago.louisberger.com

- 4) Berger indicated that the Advisory Council had presented a unanimous recommendation for the Long Hollow Freeway alignment with the South Simmons Mound variation. Berger referred to an oversized exhibit indicating this alignment.
- 5) IDNR inquired about the impacts of the alignment. Berger referred to the Impacts Matrix presented in the PDEIS stating that the alignment shown represents the least negative impacts on the environmental issues considered. Further, as stated in the Advisory Council's report, the alignment, in their opinion, best preserves Prime and Important farmland, best facilitates local travel needs and involves fewer interchanges and bridges, thus reducing impacts further.
- 6) Berger stated that based on the analyses completed and review of the overall impacts of each alignment considered, the Long Hollow Freeway alignment with the South Simmons Mound variation is the preferred alignment. FHWA stated that this seems like the logical preferred alignment in their opinion; however they had not had an opportunity to review the PDEIS prior to this meeting.
- 7) The USEPA expressed concern with concurring in the Selected Alternative at this point in time, until they had an opportunity to review the more comprehensive discussion and comparisons of impacts to be included in the Draft EIS. The U.S. Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and IDNR expressed a similar preference. The agencies did understand that the department would be identifying the Long Hollow Freeway alignment with the South Simmons Mound variation as the preferred alignment in the Draft EIS.
- 8) Berger inquired about the revisions to the Draft EIS currently underway. A general discussion ensued regarding the status of changes being made to the Draft EIS resulting from an internal department review meeting that occurred at the end of January and the potential timeframe for release of the Draft EIS to the review agencies and the public.

CONCURRENCE:

FHWA stated that the presentation of the preferred alignment seemed to be the reasonable choice, however they indicated that the project decision of the FHWA on the selected alternative could not occur until the completion of the EIS process. It was agreed that concurrence on the Long Hollow Freeway alignment with the South Simmons Mound variation would be sought from USEPA, IDNR, USCOE, USFWS and IDOA after submittal and review of the DEIS.

The meeting ended at 3:00 P.M.

NEPA/404 Merger Meeting

April 19, 2002

Name	Agency/Title	Phone
Vince Madonia	IDOT D-6, Squad Leader	785-9046
Forman Hardwick	IDOT D-6, Studies & Plans Engineer	782-4760
John C. Negangard	IDOT D-6, Studies & Plans Project Engineer	782-6990
Dennis O'Connell	IDOT D-6, Environment	785-9727
Debbie Spranger	CH2M Hill, Planner	773-693-3809
Larry Piche	IDOT, Enviro. Section Chief	782-4770
Barbara Stevens	IDOT, Env. Socioeconomics	217-785-4245
Terry Savko	IL Dept. of Agriculture/BLWR	217-785-4458
Janel Correa	IDOT, Environmental Resource Coordinator	217-558-4752
Heidi Woeber	USFWS, Rock Island	309-793-5800 X517
John Betker	Corps of Engineers	309-794-5380
Steve Hamer	IL Dept. of Natural Resources	217-785-5500
Charles Perino	IDOT, Env. Natural Resources	217-785-2130
Ken Westlake	US EPA, NEPA Program	312-886-2910
Newton Ellens	US EPA, NEPA Program	312-353-5562
Kathy Ames	IDOT, BDE	217-785-0203
J.D. Stevenson	FHWA	217-492-4638
Jan Piland	FHWA, Planning/Prog. Engineer	217-492-4989
Larry Martin	CH2M Hill	773-693-3809
Paula Green	IDOT, District 4	309-671-3478
Greg Larson	IDOT, District 4	309-671-3479
Jere J. Hinkle	Parsons	312-930-5149
Tony Pzkeltis	Parsons	312-930-5268
Michael Bruns	IDOT, Bureau of Design & Environment	217-782-7077
Lawrence R. Hill	IDOT - District 2	815-284-5450
Frank Hartl	IDOT, RXR	217-782-0697
Arlene Kocher	FHWA, Transportation Engineer	217-492-4628
Jim Reichel	Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.	312-620-8226
Daniel Loftus	Louis Berger & Associates, Inc.	312-630-8224



Louis Berger & Associates, Inc. of Illinois

819 S. Wabash Avenue, Suite 800, Chicago IL 60605-2188
TEL: 312.663.4141 • FAX: 312.341.5685

CONSULTING ENGINEERS • ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS • PLANNERS

NEPA/404 MERGER PROCESS U.S. ROUTE 20 COORDINATION MEETING

Date: September 29, 1997
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Place: Illinois Department Of Transportation
Central Office, Springfield
Subject: U.S. Route 20
Galena to Freeport, Illinois

OK
CONCUR
By Steve Hamer
Division of Impact Analysis
12-12-97 DOE
IDNR

Attendance: Steve Hamer	IDNR	Barbara Stevens	IDOT-Central Office
Varghese Kurien	IEPA	Cindy Parker	IDOT-Central Office
Cassandra Rodgers	IDOT-District 2	Kathy Ames	IDOT-Central Office
Larry Hill	IDOT-District 2	Dennis Johnson	FHWA
Mike MacMullen	USEPA	Butch Waidelich	FHWA
Mike Bruns	IDOT-Central Office	Kevin J. Kell	Berger
Charles Perino	IDOT-Central Office	Matthew Macchio	Berger
John Wegmeyer	IDOT-District 2	Ken Hess	Berger
Paul Tufts	FHWA	Paul Biggers	JDQ
Serin Park	FHWA	Joseph Catalano	Berger
Wayne Fischer	USFWS	K. Hoernschmeyer	FHWA
John Betker	USACOE		

The purpose of the meeting was to obtain concurrence on both the Purpose & Need document and the range of alternatives being studied for the U.S. Route 20 project in Jo Daviess and Stephenson Counties(See attached map).

Berger began the meeting with a brief history of the project and a summary of the 4/29/96 NEPA/404 meeting. Berger stated that the revised Purpose & Need had been edited based on input from the 4/29/96 meeting as well as Central Office and District 2 comments. Berger stated that there was concurrence by the Central Office and FHWA in the Purpose & Need as shown in the minutes of the 4/29/96 meeting.

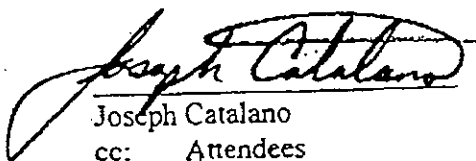
During and after the presentation of the following comments/statements were made:

- USEPA stated that the P&N does not give the existing or future level of service by segment and they feel it should. Berger will revise the P&N to incorporate this information.
- USEPA questioned whether there was any significant push for a 2-lane improvement from the public. Berger responded that there is a general consensus that some type of 4-lane facility is needed.



- USEPA questioned whether the best possible 2-lane facility would satisfy safety concerns. Berger stated that geometry related safety concerns could be addressed with a new 2-lane facility but that other safety concerns and inadequate capacity would remain a major problem.
- FHWA stated that the P&N was presented well.
- IDOT-Central Office asked whether permit needs have been developed any further. Berger stated that permit requirements have not been identified, but that the alignments have been moved to avoid almost all wetlands and the alignments may still be moved upon review comments from the District and Central Office.
- COE asked which alignments will need individual permits. Berger stated that this has not been determined at this time pending District approval of the alignments. COE stated that if no individual permits are required then they do not need to be involved in the NEPA/404 process.
- USEPA asked whether there are any overriding impacts determined at this point that lean toward a particular alignment. Berger responded that based on current information, there is no preference for a particular alignment.
- District 2 asked at what point can an alternate be dismissed. FHWA stated that there is no exact point. An alternate can be dismissed anytime if it can be shown on paper with valid information in a convincing manner that it is no longer viable.
- IDOT-Central Office stated that the P&N should be revised to reflect the LOS by segment discussion. Berger stated these revisions could be accomplished in a week and a half.
- USEPA stated that they view the alignment with the least amount of wetland impact as the environmentally preferred alternate.
- FHWA and IDOT-Central Office will meet with USEPA to discuss the P&N after LOS revisions have been incorporated. If it is shown that the LOS for the existing 2 lane facility is inadequate, the USEPA will provide concurrence on range of alternates currently being studied.
- The other agencies in attendance concurred in the alternates to be carried forward.

Meeting ended at 2:15 p.m.


Joseph Catalano
cc: Attendees

NEPA/404 Merger Meeting September 29-30, 1997

AGENDA

September 29, 1997

		<u>IDOT DIST.</u>	<u>COE</u>	<u>FWS</u>
1:00-2:00	FAP 301 (U.S. Route 20), IL 84 North of Galena to Bolton Road west of Freeport, JoDaviess and Stephenson Counties. Revised Purpose & Need and Alternatives.	2	RI	RI
2:00-3:00	FAU 5822 (Milan Beltway Extension - W. River Crossing), John Deere Expressway to Milan Beltway, south of Airport Road, Rock Island County. Alternatives and Selected Alternative.	2	RI	RI
3:00-3:15	Break			
3:15-4:15	FAP 313 (U.S. Route 34), Carmen Road to Monmouth, Henderson & Warren Counties. Purpose & Need and Alternatives.	4	RI	RI

September 30, 1997

8:00-9:00	FA 999 (New Mississippi River Crossing), Downtown St. Louis to relocated IL Route 3 in Venice, Madison County. Purpose & Need and Alternatives.	8	StL	MARION
9:00-10:00	FAP 14 (IL Route 3 Relocation), East St. Louis Riverfront from Monsanto Avenue in Sauget to Broadway in Venice, St. Clair County. Alternatives.	8	StL	MARION
10:00-10:15	Break			
10:15-11:15	High Speed Rail, Chicago to St. Louis, Cook, Will, Kankakee, Grundy, Livingston, McLean, Logan, Sangamon, Macoupin, Jersey, Madison & St. Clair Counties. Purpose & Need and Alternatives.	Office of Planning & Program- ming, Bur. Of Railroads	RI	BARRING- TON, MARION, ROCK ISLAND
11:15-11:30	FAP 827, Wabash River Bridge at Mt. Carmel, Wabash County. Drop from NEPA/404 Merger process.	7	LOUIS.	MARION
11:30-12:30	Lunch			
12:30-1:30	FAP 322 (U.S. Route 45), West of Harrisburg to Eldorado, Saline County. Selected Alternative.	9	LOUIS.	MARION
1:30	General meeting with Agencies for process discussion.			

Sign-In Sheet
NEPA/404 MERGER MEETING
September 29, 1997

Name	Organization	Telephone No.	Fax No.
Kevin Kell	LOUIS BERGER ASSOC., INC.	(312) 663-4141	(312) 341-5685
PAUL ZIGHERS	JDQ	217 524-4534	217 524-8278
Matt Mankin	Louis Berger	217 744 0603	
Steve Homen	IDNR	217 785-5500	
Joe Catalano	LOUIS BERGER ASSOC.	312-663-4141	312-341-5685
VARGHESE KURIEN	IEPA, Springfield	217/782-0610	217/782-9891
Christina Kilduff	IDOT - D-2	815/284-5455	
James A. Hill	IDOT D2	815 284 5450	
Mike McMullen	US EPA	312/886-7342	312/353-5374
Michael Buss	IDOT - Springfield	217-782-7077	217-524-9356
JOHN BETKER	CORPS - ROCK IS.	309 784-5380	5191
Charles Perino	BDE - IDOT	217 785-2130	
JOHN WEEMeyer	IDOT Dist 2	815-284-5331	815-284-5903
PAUL TUFTS	FHWA	708-283-3540	708-283-3500
SERIN PARK	FHWA	217-492-4626	217-492-4621
Wayne Fischer	USFWS	(309) 793-5800	309-793-5804
Barbara Stevens	IDOT - BDE	217 785 4245	
CINDY PARKER	IDOT - BDE	217 785 2833	
Kathy Ames	IDOT - BDE	(217) 785-0203	217-524-0989
Ken Ness	Louis Berger Assoc.		
Donat Johansen	FHWA	217-492-4621	217-492-4621
Butch Waidehik	"	" " - 4622	"
Kieff Hornschmeyer	"	" " - 4620	"

September 29, 1997

[illegible]

Sign-In Sheet
NEPA/404 MERGER MEETING
September 30, 1997

Name	Organization	Telephone No.	Fax No.
PETE FRANTZ	IDOT - Environment	217 782-4770	217 524 9356
John McCarthy	Sverdrup Civil	314 552-8415	314 552-8357
Tom Sickmann	IDOT - Dist. 8	618/346-3151	618/346-3202
PAUL TUFTS	FHWA - REGION 5	708/285-3540	708/285-3500
Ron Hicks	IDOT - Dist. 8	618/346-3157	618/346-3202
John Piricelli	IDOT - Dist 8	618-346-3156	618-346-3202
Steve HAMER	IDNR	217-785-5500	
CINDY PARKER	IDOT - BDE	217-785-2833	
Kathy Ames	IDOT - BDE	217-785-0203	(217) 524-0989
Mike McMillen	USEPA	312/886-7372	312/353-5374
John Rohlf	FHWA	217 492-4618	- 4621
Kevin Ward	FHWA	(217) 492-4619	- 4621
Wilbur Weidelt	FHWA	(217) 492-4622	- 4621
Charles Perino	BDE - IDOT	(217) 785-2130	
VARGHESE KURIEN	IEPA - Springfield	217/782-0610	217/782-9891
Joyce Collins	U.S. Fish + Wildlife Service	618/997-3344	618/997-8961
Barbara Stevens	IDOT - BDE	217 785-4245	
Keith McMillen	Corps of Engineers, St. Louis	314-331-8582	314-331-8741
RICK CHRISTOPHER	IDOT / OGC	314 793-4838	314 793-4974
Walt Zyzanski	IDOT - BDE	217 785-4161	217-524-4356
Debbie Mehra	IDOT - BDE	217/785-6068	11
John L. Rowley	IDOT - Bur. Design & Env./IV	217/785/2834	11
Wayne Fischer	U.S. Fish + Wildlife Service	309/793-5800	309/793-5804
JOHN BETKER	CORPS OF ENG	309 794-5380	5191

Sign-In Sheet
NEPA/404 MERGER MEETING
September 30, 1997

Name	Organization	Telephone No.	Fax No.
John Hicks	Booker Associates	(314) 421-1976	
Don Boisemane	Baker - Fairview Heights	(618) 397-3000	
Debbie Schasen	ENHWP	217-492-4625	217-492-4621
Butch Wardelich	"		"
Kevin Ward	"		"
John Roloff	"		"
Kieff Horrasmeyer	"		"
Jenny Isenbunig	Bureau of Railroads	217/752-4132	217/524-1889
FRANK HAZEL	" " "	217 782-0697	217 524-1889
JERRY HINKIE	DeLew Carter		
Jeff Mengler	USFWS	847-381-2253 2226	847-381-2285
MITCH ISOE	CORPS OF ENG. - CHICAGO	312 353 6400 X 4020	312 353 4110
TERRY YOUNGBLOOD	DOT / 7	217 347-3951	217 347-0621
TIM JACKSON	"	"	"
Jim Moll	Amson Eng	217-788-2450	217-788-2503
Larry Piche	IDOT - Local Roads	(217) 782-0675	
Margon Goodgaster	Harmon Eng	217-788-2450	217-788-2503
Nancy Heil	Harmon Eng	"	"
JIM SAMMONS	DIST. 5	618-351-5212	618-457-8422
JOE LENZINI	IDOT DIST 9 STUDIES/PLANS DIV	618-549-2171	618-457-8622